

HONORING ANNA WASHINGTON
LEE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable hero, Mrs. Anna Washington Lee.

Mrs. Anna Washington Lee was born September 19, 1917, in Sunflower, Mississippi. On Sunday, September 19, 2021, a precious gift of life and love, celebrated her 104th birthday with her family, students and friends in acknowledgment of her motherhood and service.

From her humble beginnings in rural Sunflower County, Mrs. Lee, along with her twelve siblings, were raised on a system of integrity premised on the tenets of love, kindness and compassion imparted by their parents. Her parents instilled a central moral compass that echoed the heart of the Good Samaritan and core ethical values encompassed in the importance of work, family, community, and the love of God. Known for her kindness and willingness to assist others, Mrs. Lee has devoted most of her life as the matriarch of her family, as an educator for 49½ years in Sunflower and Bolivar Counties. She is also the oldest living female resident of the City of Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

Mrs. Lee is a God-fearing Christian, a devoted nurturing mother of one child and one grandson. She is the living embodiment of a woman of Proverbs 31:10. She is a woman after God's own heart, committed to her faith, her family, and her friends. Her faithful membership of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church has shown her as an upstanding pillar in the community.

Mrs. Lee remains the archetype icon and central foundation of a family that retains and unbreakable bond of love, honor, devotion, commitment and encouragement for each generation; and at 104 years of age, Mrs. Lee, "Ma Anna" as she is affectionately called, continues to be a blessing to others through her impartation words of advice and wise counsel to those in her company as a reminder of God's unfailing love for us all.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Anna Washington Lee for her dedication and tenacity to serving her community and desire to be an example for all.

CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COM-
MENDATION FOR CAPTAIN
JOSEPH F. KIEFER

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am honored to present Captain Joseph F. Kiefer, Jr., U.S. Air Force with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Throughout his life, he's worked to put the needs and interests of others first.

During his years of military service, Capt. Kiefer held multiple vital positions. He served in Vietnam as part of the 2nd Aerial Port Group, displaying meticulous attention and

professionalism in his work. He went on to distinguish himself as the Chief of Tactical Operations Branch at Langley Air Force Base where his outstanding leadership was known to directly enhance the readiness posture of all active duty assigned to the Tactical Air Command.

Along with defending our nation, public service has been a driving force in Capt. Kiefer's life. A pillar of Central Texas, he dedicates his time and energies to his local community with roles ranging from a Narcotics and Criminal Investigator to President of the Temple Lions Parks and Charities. It's true and devoted public servants like Capt. Kiefer that make Central Texas a great place to call home.

I commend Capt. Kiefer's selfless service to his community and nation. He is a fitting recipient of a Congressional Veteran Commendation and I celebrate his service.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MR.
KEVIN WOODWARD

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Mr. Kevin Woodward of Wells County.

Kevin has been essential to the common welfare of Wells County and its residents for over 30 years.

Most in Wells County know him to be a distinguished public servant. In 1990, Kevin was elected to the Ossian Town Board. In 1994, he was elected to the Wells County Council. Then, in 2000, he was elected commissioner of Wells County, a role in which he would serve for 21 years. As commissioner, Kevin worked diligently and tirelessly to respond to citizen concerns, fulfill state and local requirements, and see that county operations run smoothly.

So outstanding was Kevin's tenure as commissioner that he enjoyed overwhelming popular support and often the backing of both local Republican and Democrat parties. He believed in a "common sense approach to local government," rooted in discerning the concerns of hardworking, tax-paying Hoosiers.

Apart from his public service, Kevin is family man with roots deep in Wells County. Born and raised in Ossian, Kevin has been married for 38 years to Linda, with whom he has two sons and two granddaughters.

This is a testament to Kevin's long and distinguished service to Wells County. As he enters retirement, I wish him Godspeed in this new chapter of life, and to know that the county, and the whole of northeast Indiana, is forever grateful for him.

HONORING DUPLAIN W. RHODES III

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, Duplain W. Rhodes, III., (fondly known as "Pete") transitioned to his eternal heavenly rest early morning on Thursday, September

23, 2021, at the age of 61. He was at peace in his final moments beside his loving wife, Sherry Landix Rhodes.

Pete, born on November 14, 1959, was the only son of the late Doris Millaud and Duplain W. Rhodes, Jr. He spent his formative years in the Chef Menteur and Lacombe family homes with his beloved older sisters, Sandra Rhodes Duncan, Duplynn Joan Rhodes, Stephanie Rhodes Navarre, Kathleen Rhodes Astorga, and the late Edith Gomes. Pete was extremely close to his family, his dear Mable, and childhood dog, Annabel. Pete made lifelong friends in the Rhodes Drive neighborhood with Dennis Walker, Jimmy Robert, Cyril Barthé, Ronald Woods, Don and John Scott, Eugene Bart, the late Corey Williams, Kenneth Walker, C.J. LaSassier, and Yancy Robert.

Pete attended Martinez Kindergarten, Valena C. Jones Elementary School, and was a proud graduate of Saint Augustine High School (class of 1977). He later attended Louisiana State University (LSU), Morehouse College of Atlanta, Georgia and obtained his degree in Mortuary Science from Worsham College in Wheeling, Illinois (class of 1991). Pete forged lasting friendships with "Morehouse men"—Joe Lewis, Chuck Releford, David Boyd, Michael Moultrie, Mark Moultrie, Richard Harleaux, and Ernest Cherrie—until the end.

Pete earned his Funeral Director and Embalmer's License from the Louisiana State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors in 1992, after completing an apprenticeship under his oldest sister, Sandra. At an early age, Pete worked in the Rhodes' family businesses and was a servant leader in the New Orleans community. His parents instilled the value of hard work and education. Pete traveled with his parents and siblings. He participated in a fact-finding trip to France for Louisiana Economic Development opportunities. Pete grew professionally as a funeral director, embalmer, and remarkable businessman. Pete accepted responsibilities at the New Orleans International Airport during the years of Airport Rhodes.

He was the President of Duplain W. Rhodes Funeral Home, a director on all Rhodes corporation boards, and proudly served as funeral director to many grieving families. Pete was also the manager of Rhodes Limousine Service, Rhodes Care Center, and supervised upkeep of the 80-acre tree farm in Lacombe, LA. He was appointed to serve on the State of Louisiana Embalmers and Funeral Directors board where he served in multiple roles including Secretary, Treasurer, and most recently Vice President. In July 2021, he was extended for an additional four-year term. He served on the Louisiana Judiciary Commission (1997–2001).

As an investor with the Jazzville Group, Pete was instrumental in successfully bringing the only land-based casino to New Orleans. He was a member and integral in reinvigorating the Crescent City Funeral Directors. Pete was a member of the Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure Club and former member of Young Men Illinois Club. He was also active in the National Funeral Directors & Morticians Association (NFD&MA) and National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA).

To balance his demanding life, Pete found peace among the bayous and large oaks of Lacombe. He enjoyed holidays with family there and loved traveling weekly to visit Lacombe with his son. Pete enjoyed exhilarating activities such as flying airplanes, deep